

# House Bill (HB) 3834

Rep. Joe Moody



## Supporting Successful Reintegration of Offenders with IDD

HB 3834 would expand a current Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) program, adding a requirement to develop and identify community resources to assist offenders with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) in successfully reentering and reintegrating into the community. Additionally, TDCJ would be required to develop and implement individualized reentry plans that may include coordinating treatment, identifying housing assistance, and delivering other transitional services. The bill specifies that program funds may not be used to provide housing assistance to individuals convicted of certain high-level offenses, such as murder, sexual assault, and others.



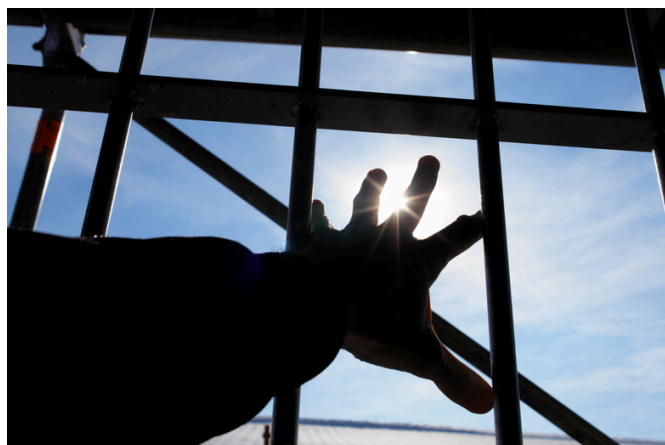
Individuals with IDD are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system, with 24% of offenders reporting a cognitive or intellectual disability. Advocates argue that this higher rate is due to systemic barriers that increase their risk of involvement, and that these challenges are exacerbated upon release from prison.



In 2015, HB 2189 established the Developmentally Disabled Offender Program, requiring TDCJ to provide offenders with IDD a safe environment and specialized programs, treatments, and activities while confined. However, the program is not required to provide any services related to the reentry and reintegration of these offenders.



Supporters of the bill include: The Arc of Texas, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, Conference of Urban Counties, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas, NAMI Texas, Texas Appleseed, Texas Association of Goodwills, Texas Civil Rights Project, Texas Council of Community Centers, and more.



“Without intentional reentry planning, people with IDD often return to their communities without the tools or supports they need to succeed. HB 3834 ensures that the transition from incarceration is not an afterthought but a coordinated, supportive process that promotes independence and dignity.”

Public testimony to the House Corrections Committee on HB 3834, April 2025

